

Heading Home St. Louis County Governance Board

Strategic Plan 2015 - 2017

Mission

Diverse communities joining together to prevent & end homelessness in St. Louis County

Vision

In 2017, the community values every individual's right to decent housing. Ensuring that all county residents are adequately housed is an investment with returns both financial and in terms of human potential. Priority is placed on providing safe, affordable, permanent housing for those in a cycle of homelessness.

Resources are dedicated to addressing the underlying causes of homelessness. These prevention efforts are built upon increased collaboration between the public and private sectors. The process of accessing services is streamlined into a user-friendly system. Services are delivered in a flexible, creative manner that best meet the needs of homeless persons.

The dignity and value of each person is recognized by providing opportunities and access to job training and education, employment, and health care. Stable housing is considered a necessary foundation to meet basic needs and allow individuals to achieve higher goals and aspirations.

Role/Responsibility

- Analysis of local gaps and needs
- Evaluation of service/project outcomes (CoC McKinney-Vento homeless/FHPAP/ESG)
- County-wide project ranking leading to funding approval
- Align funding streams with needs and maximize resources
- Regular communication to and from all stakeholders
- Provide county-wide leadership through individual and diverse expertise

Goals

1. Prevent new occurrences of homelessness & rapid re-house to permanent solutions
 - a. Develop a uniform, county-wide, state aligned Coordinated Entry system guided by best practices and successful models.
 - b. Provide TA/support to increase capacity of under-served areas
2. Build capacity for self-support
 - a. Maximize use of mainstream community resources by connecting/collaborating between Prevention/Rapid Re-housing, 211, and St. Louis County mainstream benefits.
3. Improve & Increase access to stable and affordable housing
 - a. Targeting racial disparity and institutional racism in housing and access
 - b. Increased housing stock that passes HQS inspections (N. SLC)
 - c. Strengthen statewide advocacy work
4. Align and increase effectiveness of existing resources by improving coordination, compatibility and engagement
 - a. Develop clear/holistic/fair coordinated funding decision process/standards – Set program performance targets and hold providers accountable.
 - b. Participate in/and align with statewide efforts to implement and strengthen our data system and our capacity to use data being collected to both allocate funding and strengthen our ability to access additional funds.

Guiding Principles & Values

We strive to work towards:

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| *Inclusion | *Building community capacity |
| *Continuous process improvement | *Targeting, aligning & maximizing resources |
| *Transparency | *Use of evidence-based programs and practices |
| *Collaboration and cooperation among agencies & services | |